

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1. A method of standardizing character information in electronic documents comprising the steps of:

- comparing a font used in an electronic document to a font within a target replacement font set in order to automatically generate a font comparison table for use during actual font replacement;
- presenting said font comparison table to a user;
- said user amending errors in said font comparison table; and
- actually replacing said font used in said electronic document based on said font comparison table as amended.

2. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of claim 1, wherein said step of comparing further comprises:

- inputting an electronic source document;
- inputting a font set used in said electronic source document;
- inputting a target standardization font set;
- inputting a comparison table made in a previous conversion;

7 inputting font object information to describe a rule set to limit objects of
8 character comparison and a rule set related to mapping for each kanji radical; and
9 outputting a font comparison table candidate list.

1 3. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of
2 claim 2, further comprising the step of:

3 outputting weighting information regarding mapping between similar
4 characters as a reference file.

1 4. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of
2 claim 2, wherein said font comparison table candidate list takes as elements groups
3 comprising one character within a source font and a plurality of characters within a
4 target font compatible with said source font.

1 5. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of
2 claim 4, further comprising adding priority level information for said plurality of
3 characters within said target font.

1 6. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of
2 claim 1, wherein the font comparison table is a list taking as elements a

corresponding relationship between a group of a source font set and character code within this source font set and a group of a target font set and character code within this target font set.

7. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of claim 1, wherein said step of comparing is carried out automatically using Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology.

8. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of claim 1, wherein said step of amending errors in said font comparison table further comprises the steps of:

displaying a candidate list for the font comparison table for every entry; and
said user selecting one character from said candidate list.

9. The method of standardizing character information in electronic documents of claim 1, wherein a font comparison table and a rule set describing a structure of a source electronic document are input and standardization of fonts and character code used in said source electronic document are carried out in said step of replacing said font.

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